

The GOHSEP FOCUS

Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness

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Directors Message



"We are entering the season to **give thanks** for the blessings we have in our lives. Many of you provide

those blessings for others by keeping them safe, helping them prepare for emergencies and helping them recover from a disaster. Recent attacks around the world prove why we must remain vigilant at all times in our emergency management role.

I hope you have a **wonderful Thanksgiving holiday** and enjoy time with your friends and loved ones. **Thank you** for all that you do for the people of Louisiana."



GOHSEP Director Kevin Davis, Assistant Deputy Director of Hazard Mitigation, Casey Tingle along with Lafourche Parish President, Charlotte A. Randolph, and other federal, state and local partners held a ground-

breaking on Monday, November 9, 2015 for the construction has of the **new Industrial Floodwall along the Intracoastal Waterway in Larose.**



The project designed by Larose based Angelette-Picciola Engineers has been awarded to Thibodaux based Sealevel Construction after a long awaited approval from FEMA. This project is being funded under FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) from Hurricanes Katrina/Rita.



"This project is one of the largest awarded HMGP projects for Hurricanes Katrina/Rita," Director Davis said. "Mitigation helps reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property and plays a major role in our states recovery process."

The \$5 million project will construct a new eight foot tall sea wall along 2,650 feet of Industrial Park road to protect area business and residents from flooding due

to high water in the Intracoastal Waterway. The project will also include improvements to area drainage and the resurfacing of a portion of Industrial Park Road.

"As we have seen in the last few weeks, it does not take a hurricane or tropical storm to cause a problem," Randolph said. "This project will protect 15 businesses and over 300 homes from flooding during weather events and high tide situations."



- **Upcoming Holidays:**
Nov. 26th - Thanksgiving
Nov. 27th - Acadian Day
(employees, remember to enter the new declared holiday in your time record in CATS)
- **LA SEMP Planning Round Table Meeting**
Dec. 1st - Lake Charles
Dec. 2nd - Baton Rouge
- **GOHSEP/FEMA Holiday Luncheon**
\$12 per person
December 8, 2015
JFO at 1500 Main Street
Baton Rouge

Procurement Seminars



GOHSEP hosted two (2) Procurement Seminars in early November. This seminar provided new and important information and new job aids to ensure proper procurement procedures are followed within federal grant funding guidelines.

Over GOHSEP's ten (10) years is disaster management, we've learned that the number one (1) reason for de-obligation of FEMA grant funding was due to applicants not following proper procurement guidelines.

getting it right!





Nov. 16th - Tsz Lee

Nov. 18th - Austin Dixon

Nov. 19th - Teidra Clark

Nov. 20th - Shane Rauh & Steven Garcia

Nov. 21st - Kimberly Rodrigue & Marilyn Sibley

Nov. 22nd - Lenette Jones & Cameron Bass

Nov. 25th - Chris Guilbeau, Sulanda Lonnett, Daniel Crothers & Tonette Trahan

Nov. 26th - Glenda Aceves

Nov. 27th - Daniel Marshall

Nov. 28th - Kimberly Barnett & Alfrika West

Nov. 29th - Kerry Demers & Chad Hargon

Nov. 30th - Tarnisha Spann & Derek Breau

GOHSEP Region 7 Coordinator Receives LA National Guard Medal

Jennifer Reynolds was recognized for her efforts during the Red River flooding event from Adjutant General Glenn Curtis of the Louisiana National Guard, receiving the **Distinguished Civilian Service Medal**. General Curtis says Reynolds actions saved lives, stabilized the situation and protected critical facilities in the highest standards of a highly qualified emergency manager. The coordinated effort between state, Federal and local agencies she helped promote resulted in no deaths or injuries during this historic flood event.



GOHSEP/FEMA HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

December 8, 2015
11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

• **GOHSEP JFO**
1500 Main Street, Baton Rouge
Donations: \$12 per Ticket

Donations Accepted By:
Tickets available until COB November 30, 2015

Independence - GOHSEP		JFO - GOHSEP	
Reception Desk		Estelle Jefcoat (1023-219)	
JFO - FEMA		Linda Tortorich (1023-191)	
Kim Byrd (1st Floor, 1042)		Trameka Coleman (1015-103)	
Donna Airhart (2nd Floor, 2000)		Shandrekia Taylor (1007-68)	
Amy Connolly (USDA Location)		Mary Alvarez (New Orleans)	

MENU

- Turkey & Ham
- Gravy
- Cornbread Dressing
- Sweet Potato Dressing
- Rice Dressing
- Green Beans
- Rolls
- Desserts
- Drinks

Tickets for the annual GOHSEP/FEMA Holiday Luncheon are now available. The luncheon will be held on December 8, 2015 at the FEMA/GOHSEP Joint Field Office, located at 1500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from 11:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The deadline is November 30, 2015.

meet our NEW HIRES

Jamie Covington, Fleet Specialist – DR Management

GOHSEP hosted a class in Shreveport on Nov. 19th concerning disaster management for water and wastewater utilities.



Request For Articles

If you would like to include your information/article in future issues of *The GOHSEP Focus*, please contact:
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